

Testimony of Alan S. Bowser,  
representing Montgomery County Civic Federation  
September 10/12, 2013

TESTIMONY TO PLANNING BOARD FOR SEPTEMBER 10 PUBLIC HEARING ON CLARKSBURG  
LIMITED MASTER PLAN AMENDMENT FOR TEN MILE CREEK WATERSHED

Good evening, Madame Chair, members of the Board.

My name is Alan Bowser. I am a resident of Silver Spring, Maryland and I am here in my capacity as a Vice President of the Montgomery County Civic Federation.

The mission of the MCCF is to preserve and improve the quality of life for all current and future residents of Montgomery County, Maryland. Since its founding in 1925, the volunteers of the MCCF have committed themselves to providing an effective citizen voice to government policy makers, both elected and appointed.

The Civic Federation is a not-for-profit, county-wide umbrella group designed to promote cooperation, education and effectiveness of civic and community associations in Montgomery County. It addresses a wide range of concerns in transportation, land use, environment, education, budget and finance, health and human services, public safety, and ethics. With its strength of numbers and thoroughness of its deliberations, the Federation influences county policy and balances the activities of vested county pressure groups.

The MCCF membership consists of neighborhood associations, as well as homeowner and condominium associations, which appoint voting delegates to the Federation. In addition, individuals may join as non-voting Individual Associates.

At its regular September 9, 2013 meeting in Rockville, the Montgomery Civic Federation passed the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION

Whereas, Ten Mile Creek in Clarksburg, Maryland is the cleanest tributary to Little Seneca Reservoir and a crucial part of the greater metropolitan Washington, DC region's drinking water supply; and

Whereas, the Montgomery County Planning Board and the Montgomery County Council are considering amendments to the 1994 Clarksburg Master Plan to significantly increase development in the protected Ten Mile Creek watershed that would degrade water quality and jeopardize the regional water supply; and

Whereas, proposed development in the Ten Mile Creek watershed would divert public resources and infrastructure away from the Clarksburg Town Center and could further delay the provision of important community amenities in the Clarksburg Town Center which were provided for in the 1994 Master Plan; and

Whereas, the Save Ten Mile Creek Coalition, comprised of such organizations as the Montgomery Countryside Alliance, Conservation Montgomery, the Sierra Club, the Audubon Naturalist Society, Upcounty Action, Clean Water Action,

Coalition for Smarter Growth, and the Stormwater Partners Network, has been working to protect the Washington, DC region's water supply by ensuring smart development in upper Montgomery County;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Montgomery County Civic Federation supports the Save Ten Mile Creek Coalition and its efforts to preserve and protect the Ten Mile Creek watershed, the regional water supply, and the natural environment in the surrounding area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that that Montgomery County Civic Federation calls upon the Montgomery County Planning Board and the Montgomery County Council to protect the Ten Mile Creek watershed by rejecting development proposals that would significantly increase impervious surfaces, increase pollution, and the degradation of Little Seneca Reservoir; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Montgomery County Civic Federation supports the Livable Clarksburg Coalition, the Save Ten Mile Creek Coalition and all other organizations that are committed to helping the residents of Clarksburg to obtain the amenities needed in Clarksburg Town Center and promised in the Clarksburg Master Plan.

Approved at the September 9, 2013 General Meeting of the Montgomery County Civic Federation.